

Past Lives

Worlds are altered rather than destroyed. Democritus

They dropped from the sky onto Idaho.
Snowy white, pathetic, majestic.
Their plagued bodies plummeting to earth

from thousands of feet above.
Each of the more than two thousand
geese was collected, incinerated to prevent the spread

to eagles and other birds who nest nearby.
In Russia in the same week, three thousand
strangers met by design and let go

three thousand red balloons into the sky of
St. Petersburg. The flashmob of geese and
the migrating red balloons will never meet,

but perhaps a few of the red dots will strive,
and blow, and with luck, cross the Bering Strait,
heading to a summer home in Alaska.